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SCIENCE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1909

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE
BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE¹

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TWENTY-FIVE years ago a great change was made in the practise of the British Association. From the foundation of our society until 1884 its meetings had always been held in the British Isles; in that year, however, the association met in Montreal, and a step was taken which changed us from an insular into an imperial association. For this change, which now I think meets with nothing but approval, Canada is mainly responsible. Men of science welcome it for the increased opportunities it gives them of studying under the most pleasant and favorable conditions different parts of our empire, of making new friends; such meetings as these not only promote the progress of science, but also help to strengthen the bonds which bind together the different portions of the king's dominions.

This year, for the third time in a quarter of a century, we are meeting in Canada. As if to give us an object lesson in the growth of empire, you in Winnipeg took the opportunity at our first meeting in Canada in 1884 to invite our members to visit Manitoba and see for themselves the development of the province at that time. Those who were fortunate enough to be your guests then as well as now are confronted with a change which must seem to them unexampled and almost incredible. Great cities have sprung up, immense areas have been converted from prairies to prosperous farms, flourishing industries have been started, and the population has quad-

¹ Winnipeg, 1909.

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the Editor of SCIENCE, Garrison-on-Iudson, N. Y.